

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 OES-03 DLOS-04 CG-00 DOTE-00

EPA-01 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 COME-00

OFA-01 /035 W

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R 140835Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1223

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 14005

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, SN, ID, MY

SUBJECT: TRIPARTITE MEETING ON MALACCA STRAIT

REF: 226935

1. IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR NOV. 13 JUSTICE MINISTER (AND LOS POLICY MAKER) MOCHTAR COMMENTED THAT RECENT TRIPARTITE MEETING ON STRAITS (REFTEL) HAD NARROWED GAP BETWEEN POSITIONS OF SINGAPORE ON ONE HAND AND INDONESIA/MALAYSIA ON OTHER.

2. ACCORDING MOCHTAR SINGAPORE NOW PREPARED LIMIT USE OF MALACCA STRAIT TO VESSELS HAVING 3 METERS UNDER KEEL, I.E. A 20 METER DRAFT. INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA ARE STILL PUSHING FOR 4 METERS UNDER KEEL (19 METER DRAFT), AND MOCHTAR SEEMED OPTIMISTIC THIS VIEW WOULD PREVAIL. MOCHTAR ADMITTED THAT DISCUSSIONS ON WEIGHT LIMITS HAD BEEN "FUZZY" ADDING THAT INDONESIA IS STILL TRYING TO CONVINCE SINGAPORE OF MERITS OF 200,000 TON LIMIT.

3. MOCHTAR SAID THAT, SHOULD THREE COUNTRIES FINALLY AGREE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM OVER WHETHER REGULATIONS GOVERNING STRAIT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO IMCO FOR ITS APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OR WHETHER IMCO SHOULD MERELY
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BE CONSULTED, SINCE INDONESIA'S VIEW THAT IMCO ONLY AND ADVISORY BODY (AND HENCE NEED ONLY BE CONSULTED) "HAD PREVAILED."

(COMMENT: SINGAPORE DCM ONE WEEK AGO SAID QUESTION OF HOW TO DEAL WITH IMCO STILL UP IN AIR, AND THAT GOS WOULD NOT AGREE TO ANY PROCEDURE WHICH WOULD IMPLY GOS AGREEMENT THAT MALACCA STRAIT TERRITORIAL WATERS OF INDONSIA AND MALAYSIA.)

4. MOCHTAR REFERRED BRIEFLY TO JAPANESE, STATING THEY ARE BEING "VERY DIFFICULT" AND THAT INDONESIA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE ARE NOT KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH GOJ ON THIS MATTER. NEWSOM

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